CLAIMS

A method in a computer system for providing property notifications for properties of software components in a distributed environment, the method comprising:

registering an interest in watching a property of a software component;

receiving notification when the property is set; and

tracking a state of the software component so that it can be determined
when the software component is in a down state.

- 2. The method of claim 1 including retrieving the state of the property independently of receiving a notification.
- 3. The method of claim 1 including un-registering an interest in watching the property of the software component.
- 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the property has associated access rights and wherein an interest can only be registered by a software component with sufficient access rights.
- 5. The method of claim 1 wherein each software component that is watching the property receives notification of the setting of the property before any software component that is watching the property receives a subsequent notification of another setting of the property.
- 6. The method of claim 1 wherein each software component that is watching the property receives notifications of the settings of the property in the same order as the settings.
- 1 75 A method in a computer system for providing property notifications for property settings in a distributed environment, the method comprising:

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3	for each of the plurality of software components, registering an interest
4	in a property; and
5	setting the property multiple times;
6	for each setting of the property, notifying each software component that
7	the property has been set prior to notifying any software component of the next setting of the
8	property.
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1	8. The method of claim 1 wherein each software component receives the

notifications of the settings in the same order as the settings.

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